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## SOUTH LAKE TAHOE RESIDENT AND FORMER TEACHER CONVICTED OF USING THE INTERNET TO OBTAIN AND TO POSSESS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT IMAGES OF MINOR GIRLS

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced that ROBERT JUDSON GIENAPP, 61, of South Lake Tahoe, California pled guilty today in U.S. District Court in Sacramento to a single count of possession of images depicting the sexual exploitation of minors.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the South Lake Tahoe Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, GIENAPP was arrested by federal complaint on October 12, 2005, and subsequently charged with possession of matters containing sexually explicit images of minors. GIENAPP pled guilty as charged today. In his plea agreement, GIENAPP admitted that he used the Internet and a computer at his South Lake Tahoe residence to download, copy, and possess, sexually explicit images of minors. GIENAPP possessed between 40 and 150 images of actual minor female victims engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

GIENAPP is scheduled to be sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge David F. Levi on January 25, 2007. The maximum penalty he faces is 10 years imprisonment, a life term of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors. According to the plea agreement, GIENAPP will also be required to register as a sex offender and will forfeit his computers, hard drives, equipment, and other digital storage devices that he used to possess child pornography. GIENAPP remains in federal custody pending sentencing.

The prosecution of GIENAPP is part of "Operation Valley Predator," a three-day multi-agency operation spearheaded by the Sacramento Office of the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California as part of Project Safe Childhood, a national initiative of the U.S. Department of Justice, designed to increase federal and state prosecutions of violent sexual predators of children. As a part of Project Safe Childhood, the United States Attorney's Office in both Sacramento and Fresno has teamed with state and local agencies throughout the Eastern District to enhance law enforcement presence on the internet, and to educate the public and children about safe Internet use. For additional information on the PSC initiative, please go to <a href="www.projectsafechildhood.gov">www.projectsafechildhood.gov</a>, or call the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and ask to speak with the PSC coordinator.